



Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence
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Our Reference: FOI2015/04360

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

15 June 2015

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email to the Ministry of Defence (MOD) dated 15 May in which you requested the following information:

- 1. Numbers of armed forces personnel disciplined for alcohol related offence since 2013.*
- 2. The number of armed forces personnel who required medical treatment for alcohol related offences since 2013.*
- 3. Details of military personnels drinking habits as recorded by the Defence Medical Information Capability Programme for 2013 and 2014.*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000. Following a search of our records, I can confirm that the MOD does hold some of the information you have requested.

The Department has taken alcohol related offences to mean:

- Armed Forces Act 2006 section 20 - Unfitness or misconduct through alcohol or drugs
- Armed Forces Act 2006 section 20A - Exceeding alcohol limit for prescribed safety critical duties

These offences can be dealt with either by a Commanding Officer at a Summary Hearing or by the Court Martial. In response to question one the MOD can provide the following information regarding Summary Hearings:

Summary Hearing	s20		s20A	
	Charges proved	Charges not proved	Charges proved	Charges not proved
2013	430	14	*	*
2014	421	14	30	0
2015 (as at 6 Jun 15)	169	~	9	0

* s20A was created on 1 Nov 2013

Please note that the MOD does not record information by individual Service person, our data records the numbers of charges rather than the numbers of people and does not break the data down by Service. In accordance with the Data Protection Act and our obligations in relation to the protection of confidentiality when handling personal data a figure of 5 or fewer is represented by ~.

I must advise you that under Section 21 of the FOI Act, the MOD is not obliged to provide information that is reasonably available to the applicant by other means. In this case Court Martial results are published online here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/court-martial-results-from-the-military-court-centres>

The MOD does not hold information in relation to your second question.

I hope that this information will be helpful to you.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,


Defence People Secretariat